

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**MERGING SCALABLE NODES INTO SINGLE-PARTITION
MERGED SYSTEM USING SERVICE PROCESSORS OF NODES**

49 Controlling the merging of nodes into a single-partition merged system using the nodes' service processors is disclosed. The system runs a single instance of an operating system. A user communicates with a service processor of a predetermined boot node to enter partition configuration information for the system without using a dedicated console. The partition configuration information is stored by the service processor of the boot node, and transmitted from the service processor of the boot node to the service processors of predetermined secondary nodes. The service processor of each secondary node then stores the partition configuration information. At reset, power-up, or power-down of any secondary node, the reset, power-up or power-down is conveyed to the service processor of the boot node, which resets, starts up, or shuts down the system, including transmitting commands to the service processors of the secondary nodes to individually reset, start up, or shut down.